



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS
Room 372, Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
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Website: <http://sbc.lacounty.gov>

FOUNDER
Mrs. Sybil Brand

CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Eleanor R. Montañó

VICE CHAIRPERSON
Mrs. Helen H. Stathatos

Mr. Frank S. Bacio
Mr. Vito Cannella
Ms. Rita Hall
Mr. John A. Hammargren
Mr. Carl E. Moore

MINUTES OF THE **SYBIL BRAND COMMISSION FOR INSTITUTIONAL INSPECTIONS** **REGULAR WEEKLY MEETING** **DECEMBER 12, 2007**

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Montañó called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

OPENING CEREMONIES

Chair Montañó led the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence in prayer for Ricky Wright, colleague to Commissioners' Hammargren and Hall.

ATTENDANCE

Present

Chair Eleanor R. Montañó
Vice Chair Helen Stathatos
Frank Bacio
Vito Cannella
Rita Hall
John Hammargren
Carl E. Moore

Others Present

Janice Davis, Commission Services Staff
Andrew Sevrin, Commission Services Staff
Garen Khachian, Commission Services Staff

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 5, 2007 MEETING MINUTES

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Hall, and unanimously carried, the minutes of December 5, 2007 were approved, with no changes.

Commissioner Bacio joined the meeting at 10:06 a.m.

Commissioner Moore joined the meeting at 10:14 a.m.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Chair Montañó discussed the following news articles:

- "After A Day In Court, Hundreds Of Kids Have Homes", Los Angeles Times, November 18, 2007, regarding the Children's Court in Monterey Park. It has been a successful place for adoptions, since Los Angeles County foster children left with new families.
- "I'm Blessed, Three Times Over", Press-Telegram, Long Beach, California, December 3, 2007, regarding Katherine Palda Dixon, who credits Dolores Araiza Palada, Frances Dixon and Commissioner Eleanor R. Montañó for each making wonderful contributions to her life.

On motion of Commissioner Hammargren, seconded by Commissioner Hall, and unanimously carried, the Commission approved sending a copy of the article, "I'm Blessed, Three Times Over" to the Honorable Supervisor Don Knabe's office.

- "Out Of Tragedy Came A New Kind Of Family That Endures", Los Angeles Times, December 8, 2007, regarding four siblings that lost their mother, but gained a foster father and brother.
- "Killer Said He Cared, But Not For The Victims", Associated Press, December 8, 2007, regarding the youth that opened fire at the shopping mall in Omaha, Nebraska. The article was significant because the teen had a history of being passed through many foster homes.
- "Mall Gunman's Note Revealed Only Contempt For His Victims", Los Angeles Times, December 8, 2007, regarding the youth that opened fire at the shopping mall in Omaha, Nebraska. The article was significant because the teen had a history of being passed through many foster homes.
- "Life Has Its Own Story", Los Angeles Times, December 10, 2007, regarding a film class at a facility for Juvenile gang offenders inspires a gang member to change the direction of his future.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Commissioner Bacio reported the current balance of the Commission's Charitable Fund is \$403.17.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. Janice Davis, Staff, Commission Services, gave the following reports:

- The Commissioners will be attending the "Sexual Harassment and Cultural Diversity Training" on December 19, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. in the Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, Room B-28.
- The next Commission meeting is scheduled on January 2, 2008.

TRANSPORTATION ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMISSION TO PITCHESS DETENTION RANCH CENTER

The Commission agreed to visit the Pitchess Detention Ranch Center in March 2008 and to discuss transportation arrangements during the January 16, 2008 Business Meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE

Chair Montaña distributed to the Commission the "Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department Inmate on Inmate and Inmate on Staff Assaults November 2007 Report".

The Sybil Brand Commission received a thank you card from Rhonda Rangel, Commission Services, for the invitation to the Sybil Brand Commission Holiday Reception.

FACILITY INSPECTION REPORTS FROM DECEMBER 5 TO DECEMBER 11, 2007

Marina Del Rey Sheriff's Station – Commissioners Hall and Moore (Verbal)

The facility was visited on December 6, 2007, and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Building wiring is not code compliant, therefore food can not be heated; CRDF will not help the station regarding space problems and will not accept female inmates.

B & I Group Home – 4, #2 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña

The facility was visited on December 10, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Area of Concern: New shower curtains needed.

Boys Republic – 4, #5 – Commissioners Hammargren and Montaña

The facility was visited on December 11, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Area of Concern: Door hole needs to be fixed.

East Los Angeles Sheriff's Station – Commissioners Bacio, Hall and Moore

The facility was visited on December 11, 2007 and found to be in satisfactory condition.

Areas of Concern: Trustee showers need fixing; waiting for the oven racks; CRDF will not accept their female inmates.

NEW BUSINESS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Hammargren proposed that the Commission send a letter to Robert Taylor regarding the Probation Department's level of responsiveness to clients' inquiries and requests.

MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA (To be presented and placed on a future agenda)

There were none.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chair Montaña adjourned the meeting at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Davis
Commission Services Division